Mobile Phones

Rationale

This policy outlines the appropriate use of mobile phones on our school site.

Related Technology

The procedures applying to the inappropriate use and security of mobile phones, apply equally to the inappropriate use of portable computer games, ipads, ipods and other communication devices.

Policy Statement

Croydon Hills Primary School recognises that mobile phones are part of everyday life. We also recognise that some parents/guardians request that their child/ren bring a mobile phone to school for before and after school. Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. Therefore the school strongly discourages the bringing of mobile phones to school by students. The school will allow mobile phones on the premises but only within the parameters of the policy as stated below.

Implementation

Staff

During teaching time, while on playground duty and during meetings, mobile phones will be switched off or put on ‘silent’ or ‘discreet’ mode.

Except in urgent or exceptional situations, mobile phone use is not permitted during teaching time, while on playground duty and during meetings.

Parents

If parents want their child to bring a mobile phone to school, parents must complete the Mobile Phone Permission form (see appendix) which can be obtained from the Principal and must be returned to him. Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency the school office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.

Students

The phones will be turned off and left in the student’s bag and are not to be used on the school premises.

Students remain responsible for all of their personal effects whilst at school including the mobile phone. When students enter the school grounds the school takes no responsibility for mobile phones. Mobile phones are brought to school entirely at the owner’s risk. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.

Students are not permitted to take mobile phones on school camp or other external school related activities. Students who bring a mobile phone to school without the approval of the Principal and/or misuse their mobile phone will have the phone taken from them and it will be stored securely at the office to be collected by a parent/guardian.

*It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. The school may consider it appropriate to involve the police.*

Exemptions

Exemptions of this policy can only be approved by the Principal and then only in exceptional circumstances.
References
Department of Education Guidelines

Review
As part of the school's cyclic process.

Appendix 1
Mobile Phones Permission

Croydon Hills has a policy to manage the use of mobile phones by students at school. Most students have no need for a phone at school as there is adequate ability, for parents to communicate with students while at school. Sometimes parents choose for their child to bring a mobile phone to school.

Parent requesting permission: __________________________

Student using the phone: _____________________________

Class: ______________________________

Reason for use: __________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

School Policy Details Relating To Student Use:

- Students are not to bring personal mobile phones to school and/or school activities unless permission from the principal has been sought by parents and the mobile phone is deemed necessary.
- Mobile phones must remain switched off during school hours and kept in the student’s school bag.
- Student’s mobile phones must not be used while on school property.
- Parents who wish to contact students will be able to do so via the school office during school hours.
- Parents who wish to contact students in Out of Hours School Care will be able to do so via the OHSC contact number.
- Student’s who bring a mobile phone to school without prior approval and / or misuse their mobile phone will have their mobile phone stored at the office until collected by a parent/guardian.
- The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones.
- The principal may revoke a student’s permission to bring a mobile phone to school.

We have read the policy guidelines and agree to comply with them.

Date: __________

signed

______________________________  ______________________________
Student                     Parent